

KITCHENER PLANNED TO SMASH GERMANY'S RESISTANCE BY 1918

Schemed to Overwhelm the Kaiser's Forces with Great General Reserve of the Allies, Which Was Held Back.

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By JOHN L. BALDWIN.

London, June 14.—This is an accurate and detailed statement of the strength and composition of the German army at present and of how it has been built up during the war. To put the German army in proper perspective with the war as a whole, as much as possible, will be said concerning the forces on the allied side and the relative importance of numbers compared with munitions and finances just touched upon.

There is a wide gulf between the viewpoints of the soldier and the civilian toward battle. The result of an action is calculated by the soldier from the number of shells fired and casualties inflicted, relative to the number of men and projectiles consumed by the two sides. The civilian measures success by ground gained and prisoners taken. True, if any army gains much ground it almost always makes big hauls of prisoners and wins from any point of view, but it is the losses and not the ground that really count in this war of attrition.

From Soldier's Point of View.
This article is written from the soldier's point of view, from material supplied by staff officers who display no more bias for their own side in working out their calculations than if they were solving an equation on a blackboard in peace. "But if you write this sort of thing," correspondents as well as soldiers have said to me, "you will bore your readers stiff."

I am no cynic, and work on the assumption that the public, at least the American public, wants to know the truth about the war—not merely the read interesting and amusing official and unofficial half-truths and fairy-tales. It is impossible in the stress of a great campaign for newspapers, or even generals, to learn the relative casualties and shell expenditure, while progress upon the map cannot be concealed, but the fundamental problem of manpower, studied for two years by all the staffs in Europe, can be accurately stated, and is more important than which side at the moment holds possession of a hundred battlefields.

"Men, money and munitions." Of these the money is the most important. International bankruptcy all around would have no effect on the war, excepting as it curtailed the power of the Entente to buy munitions in America and Japan, and the relative importance, though not the amount, of the manufacturing output of neutral countries is steadily declining as the industrial mobilization of Britain and Russia proceeds. Many good judges think Austria is bankrupt, and Germany will be unable without indemnities to meet her obligations. But these facts, if they are facts, produce little impression in the trenches. So long as a government can persuade or force its own people to accept its paper money, supplying its armies from industrial resources within its own borders and paying for supplies with paper, it can go on fighting, so far as finances are concerned, while it has printing presses.

Munitions Problem Important.
The problem of munitions is next in importance to that of manpower, but at this moment less capable of calculation. An authority in London informed me that the output of shells of all caliber in Germany and Austria-Hungary in 1915 was 400,000 tons, and that this figure, reached early this spring, represents the maximum number possible and can be continued indefinitely, but never exceeded. He added that the combined output of Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan will be 400,000 tons in 1916, and that this figure, reached early this spring, represents the maximum number possible and can be continued indefinitely, but never exceeded. He added that the combined output of Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan will be 400,000 tons in 1916, and that this figure, reached early this spring, represents the maximum number possible and can be continued indefinitely, but never exceeded.

The central powers, contrary to much that has been written and said by people who ought to know better, still have a great superiority in the two most important artillery weapons, the machine gun and the heavy howitzer.

The French are superior to their opponents, and the British are now at least their equals, but the great works of Krupp and Skoda have declined to permit the lead in heavy ordnance which they enjoyed at the beginning of the war to be taken from them. By prodigious efforts the surprised allies have been able to turn out more and better heavy guns than the Germans had early in the war, but meanwhile the quick-firing 8-inch howitzers, which have almost entirely superseded, on the vital sectors of the western front, the standard three-inch field piece. To these new guns alone are due such successes as the German line recently obtained before Ypres and at Vimy.

Russia Gets Guns.
Meanwhile Skoda, in Austria, specializing in heavy guns, has turned out an incredible number of twelve and sixteen-inch weapons; at least 120 of these giants were used on a narrow front against the Italians in the Trentino offensive, and more than 200 have hammered the defenses of the Isonzo. Great strides have been made recently by British and French gun-makers, and the present victorious Russian attack indicates that Russia, too, has supplied herself, or been supplied by her friends, with the right kind of guns in plentiful numbers. There is no doubt that given time enough the arsenals of the world will be able to overhaul the vast plants are doing in the shell output, but I am unable to give even approximate figures indicating the present relative positions of the rival powers as regards artillery.

There remains the most important problem—that of man power. Men can be won without guns, but without men guns are worthless. For purposes of comparison, the strength of the entente armies will be vaguely discussed, although I may not go into details concerning them before definite figures on the German army are set forth.

Great Britain supplied by voluntary recruits 5,000,000 men, and to this number must be added a few hundred thousand conscripts who have been called up or will have been called up in the near future. This figure is, however, very misleading when taken to include fighting strength, including as it does the regular army and reserve and territorial establishments at the beginning of the war. Probably nearly a million men have been subtracted to allow for permanent losses sustained and men invalided out of service, the latter an important source of wastage which never appears in the published casualty returns of any country.

Strength of England.
The real basis for estimating Britain's military strength is Premier Asquith's declaration in parliament that Great Britain is maintaining seventy-one divisions of infantry—as I was able to announce on December 5 last—and that Australia and Canada are keeping up twenty divisions, a total for the empire

of eighty-six divisions. A division at full strength comprises 20,000 men, but under modern conditions so many of these must be used for services non-combatant though performed under fire that but 12,000 to 14,000 bayonets, the exact number depending on conditions and lines of communication, can be put in the trenches. Assuming the latter figure, the empire is maintaining 1,240,000 available bayonets at home and abroad, in England, Ireland, India, Flanders, Mesopotamia, Macedonia, Egypt and East Africa. And it has been officially announced in the Commons that no more separate divisions will be raised during the war.

Where, then, are England's remaining millions? The answer explains why Germany's losses, though the fighting has been borne by others, Britain's allies, the other infantry will turn the scale at the end, and why her enemies, though affecting to sneer, dread her efforts during the concluding phase of the war. Britain has ample reserves to maintain her eighty-six divisions at full strength for nearly two years, thanks to the foresight of Lord Kitchener, who planned from the beginning, since he could not at the start improvise armies at will, that Germany's veterans, to strike the finishing blow of the war. It is true that something like 500,000 good soldiers, if Winston Churchill's estimate is correct, have been lost, but adding 1,000,000 men to invasion, and have not been sent to foreign service. The fear of invasion is now practically non-existent since the German fleet has departed from the North Sea and disposed of the German navy, and it had a new and terrible weapon up its sleeve, but subtracting this half million from these islands' total of 5,000,000, leaving 4,500,000, deducting 1,000,000 killed, wounded or missing, and 1,000,000 men as the ultimate effort of the dominions and colonies, and a reasonable allowance for conscripts, it is seen that the British reserves are amply sufficient to insure that Kitchener's plan may be carried out.

5,500,000 Available.
The empire has available at present not less than 5,500,000 soldiers at home, abroad and in the colonies.

Discussion concerning the details of French contribution to man power is frowned upon in Paris, but, roughly, France has put 5,000,000 men in the field, not counting the boys of eighteen and nineteen who have not yet completed their training, and her permanent wastage from all sources is generally put at much less than half, but more than one-third that figure. Her casualties have fallen heavily in proportion upon the younger men, who make the best soldiers, as during the first eighteen months of war the older classes, unable to endure trench hardships so well as their juniors, were used in the lighter and less dangerous duties in the rear. Efforts have now been made to check this wastage of the best material. In places where no important events are proceeding, the advanced positions are held by inferior troops, so that the inevitable daily losses fall upon them, while the more vigorous men, formed into "shock corps," are held in reserve, to be thrown into action only upon important occasions. It was a "shock corps" which hurled back the Germans on the Douaumont plateau in February and saved Verdun, and others have been used from time to time in the frequent counter-attacks which the French undertake when the ceaseless German assaults menace some position of vital importance.

Russian Forces Small.
Amazing misconceptions have prevailed concerning Russia, and stories about ten million Slavs in arms have gained currency. How many soldiers may be training in the rear I do not know, but the surprising fact may now be stated that six months ago the Russian empire was holding 400 miles of front with 800,000 bayonets, not more than Great Britain had in the field at the time, and with a greatly inferior supply of guns and shells. Russia was saved by the exhaustion of the German armies during the last phases of the great retreat last fall and by the winter. She made prodigious efforts and her friends did their best to help her during the months when ice and mud immobilized Hindenburg, and the amazing fruits of that winter of desperate endeavor are now manifest to the stricken armies of Austria.

The exact position of Russia as regards equipment and munitions is a subject of speculation in the best informed quarters, and it is said Lord Kitchener's ill-fated mission to Russia was an attempt to find out for himself and the French just how Russia really stands. The current estimates vary widely and seem equally untrustworthy. Roughly speaking, the question of Russian man power does not belong in this article at all, because for all practical purposes it is unlimited. The question with Russia is not how many men she can put in the field, but how many she can equip, and find guns and shells to support. The officer question is one of her most serious difficulties, for the educated class in Russia is tiny, and in proportion to the population than elsewhere. The bulk of most of the original officer corps was wiped out during the disasters of last year.

The present position of Germany, as understood by the authorities most competent to judge outside of Germany, the intelligence departments of Germany's armies, will now be explained in detail.

9,000,000 Germans in Field.
Germany has put into the field almost exactly 9,000,000 soldiers, some 2,000,000 more than her experts before the war believed possible, and her recruitment of the troops exhausted with the exception of the boys who are growing up to military age. The lads of the class of 1917 (their "class" indicates their twentieth year when in peace time they would have been conscripted) were warned last December and called up soon after, and will appear at the front, the German system allowing for not more than five months training before the recruit is held fit for the firing line. Half the boys of the class of 1918 are not yet eighteen years old, and they will be next to be drafted. About 700,000 boys attain military age every year in Germany, but some of these are unfit, and the French headquarters staff figures on the analogy of the French younger classes that exemption among such lads must be much more numerous than among youths, twenty years old, so that Germany can count on only about 400,000 soldiers from among her boys now aged seventeen and a half to eighteen and a half years.

This estimate is based upon the plan that the Germans themselves, for a semi-official German statement recently announced that Germans can mobilize 20,000 recruits monthly from her young classes for as long as 20,000 years, and may last. This works out at 20,000 a year, and sounds impressive until it is remembered that Germany's permanent wastage on the most conservative allowance possible is four to five times as great as can be made up by the ripening of her green cannon fodder.

The Kaiser now has in the field one hundred and fifty-one infantry divisions, of which one hundred and nineteen are in the west, thirty-six of these before Verdun and thirty-five on the British front. Forty-nine German divisions are in the east, and three were last reported in the Balkans, but probably Mousa has drawn them thither, or they have been hurried to Galicia to strengthen their wavering allies. Allowing, as in the British army, 14,000 bayonets to a division, Germany would appear to have

Data Presented to Show Trenches Have but 2,114,000 Bayonets Left—Thirty Thousand Boy Reserves.

2,114,000 bayonets available for the trenches, with 900,000 men at the front performing other duties, although this is probably a slight overestimate, as all the Germans are not up to strength.

German Losses 3,000,000.
There is much controversy concerning Germany's losses, but the fighting capable and conservative neutral critics, such as Col. Feyler, of Switzerland, say that the permanent wastage from all sources including sickness during the war cannot be less than three million bayonets, or 3,000,000 men, which is 250,000 less than the estimate of the French headquarters staff on May 1, it appears that Germany has not more than 6,000,000 soldiers in arms, and in maintaining one-half of them in action, while all the remainder are employed in the transport and auxiliary services, and no trained or untrained reserves are left except a limited number of immature boys and men over military age.

Every military man who discusses this question hammers at the fact that an amazing feat is performed in keeping one bayonet in the trenches for every two men at the front and rear, performing the thousand-and-one jobs necessary to keep a modern army in the field. That the German army is doing this, although the proportion in the British army, Winston Churchill recently told the Commons, is three non-combatants to one bayonet. The explanation is the innumerable lists behind their lines, which save time and labor; they have twelve near Verdun alone, while the French depend on motor transport. France and Britain did not start building the railways behind the front because they expected to drive the Germans back long before such jobs could be completed. The German staff commenced its railways in the fall of 1914, after it had decided to hold its ground indefinitely in the west and seek a decision over Russia.

The term "reserves" often leads to confusion because when military men use it they may mean either of two things. All armies unless in their last stages have soldiers in the rear, resting in billets, maintained fresh for use at critical moments. These are "reserves," and of them Germany has many divisions, while part of every division is at most times a local reserve. In saying Germany has no reserves left, the German press in its other sense, as meaning that all troops available are at or near the front, and that there are no great central reservoirs at home from which wastage can be made up, such as Britain and Russia possess. Central reserves, however, means either that the actual fighting strength of the German units must decline from now on—and the allies claim to have evidence that this process has begun—or that some divisions must be altogether abolished and their survivors used to fill the gaps to keep the other units at full strength.

Britain's Advantage.
The great military advantage of Britain over Germany can now be appreciated. Including dominion forces, Britain has within 200,000 men in the Imperial army at present as has Germany, but is using not nearly half so many at the front. While all of Germany's 151 divisions are on the fighting line or within immediate call—the same is true of France and Austria—not nearly all of Britain's eighty-six divisions are on any front. And since Britain has reserves to keep these eighty-six divisions at full strength long after the German units are mere skeletons, the Kaiser's anxiety to win victory or peace in 1916 can well be understood.

Britain is not shirking, as ill-natured critics have it. She created those eighty-six divisions, and the millions in khaki to support them, for use, not ornament, and she intends they shall be there at the finish and strike, with Russia's help, the final blow. France is playing the heavy role now. It would have been possible for Britain, by creating more divisions with fewer reserves, to play a bigger part in the 1915 campaign, but Lord Kitchener planned for 1916, and the scheme of the new armies, which is wholly his, is based on the assumption that the maximum result for the efforts put forward can be gained in 1917, or, if necessary, 1918. A famous general recently remarked, "Even if France should disappear, we ourselves can whip Germany on land in two years if Russia can take care of Austria and Turkey." It is hard on France, but it is war, and France, grimly enduring, approves the British plan.

The stages by which the German empire has brought its entire man power into play will now be explained. On November 1, 1914, during the battle at Ypres and the work of the winter, the whole active army had appeared at the front—all men who had served in the army in peace time and who were still of military age, 3,500,000 of them.

Erzatz Sent to Field.
During the next three months, the Ersatz reserve took the field. It was composed of men who had not served their time, but had received a short training before the war, like the American militia, and it was given several months' extra work during the summer and autumn before reaching the trenches. After February 1, 1915, no trained men remained, and the work of preparing untrained material for fighting commenced. Unlike France, Germany in peace time trains less than two-thirds of her young men. By April 1, all untrained men between twenty and thirty-five had been called up, except those retained in industries, and the work of training commenced. By August 1, just a year after the war began, all untrained men up to forty had been made soldiers, although most of them were still retained in training depots at home.

During the latter part of the summer of 1915 the process known as "combing out" began. All men of military age who had been rejected as unfit, before or during the war, were re-examined, and hundreds of thousands of cripples and defectives of all sorts were passed for military service. These men, of course, have never been into battle. The ruthless German military machine has taken every man who can do anything to release a more able comrade for the trenches, and "unfits" are doing work which has made it possible to keep the German divisions up to strength so long. German prisoners tell of one-armed and one-legged men on duty in the rear, in every case performing—such is German organization—tasks for which one arm or one leg is as good as two. This process to some extent is being duplicated in France, but is just beginning in England.

There remains for consideration Germany's use of her young material. In the army that went to the Marne were few conscripts under twenty-one, the class of 1915, composed of youths reaching twenty in that year, forming part of the regular army, but not the class of 1914, which was not called out until war began. After four months of preparation, the latter class appeared at the front in December. Lord Kitchener's remark as to the German idea of using young troops after four months' training, and

Artist Soddier Wins Fame By Sketches of Gallipoli

All England Paying Tribute to Genius of Sapper Moore-Jones, Familiarly Known as "Spider"—Sketches Exhibited Before King and Queen at Palace.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, July 1.—All England is paying tribute to the genius of a soldier artist from New Zealand who considered that by enlisting soon after the outbreak of the war he had made himself a specialist in the art of sketching. For years with the one aim of gaining a recognition for his art he has been sketching, and his sketches have been exhibited before the King and Queen at the Palace.

Exhibition of Sketches.
Prior to the "command" appearance of the artist at Buckingham Palace an exhibition of his sketches had been held at the Strand. Art critics were unanimous in recognizing the genius of the soldier artist and crowds of distinguished folk, including Sir Ian Hamilton, the Gallipoli commander, endorsed the verdict of the critics.

Commissions have flowed in upon Sapper Moore-Jones, a second "show" of whose sketches is now being held at the home of Hugh Riviere, son of Briton Riviere, the Royal Academician. The New Zealand government is desirous of acquiring, as a permanent collection, the whole of his original Gallipoli sketches.

The artist will have to return to the other and infinitely less profitable "colors" some time within the present month, when he will probably be sent to the western front.

Goes to Recruiting Office.
Sapper Moore-Jones is within a year or two of fifty. When war was declared Moore-Jones had been in London just under two years. All that time he had been working hard under masters like Frank Brangwyn and Philip Lawlor.

Although participation in a war was the last thing that his program called for, Moore-Jones did not waste time in considering what the step of enlisting might entail. Instead, he shaved off his iron gray moustache, generally adopted the most youthful "make up" possible, and went to the recruiting office for New Zealanders and calmly told them, in response to their inquiries, that he was 32.

A few days later he was in uniform as a member of probably one of the most remarkable corps of experts that even this world has brought together, the New Zealand Engineering Corps. It was this force that accomplished the engineering marvels of Gallipoli, building roads up precipices, bridging chasms that looked unbridgeable, generally accomplishing the seeming impossible. Within a few days of setting foot in Gallipoli Moore-Jones, artist first of all, began making sketches, and some of these attracted the notice of one of his officers, who was much impressed with their value. He reported his discovery to his superiors and almost immediately Moore-Jones got orders to present himself at a general headquarters, where he submitted his rough drawings to Gen. Birdwood. The latter assigned him at once to the work of making drawings of the enemy's positions, a dangerous task, needless to say, as while thus engaged he was nearly always a target for snipers.

"As everybody knows now," the sapper said, "the maps we had when we landed were practically useless, and it was not until we found one on the body of a dead Turk that we were able to construct anything like an accurate one. Consequently every man who was capable of doing so was set to surveying work, and thus and by means of sketching we did the best we could to improve maps of the country both for ourselves and the fleet."

Naval Gunners Hampered.
The gunners on our warships were hampered in assisting us by bombardment by the same lack of reliable maps and the fact that they were practically without targets. Even at the best the results of their fire were practically useless, and this was the case with the navy. You can realize this when I tell you that when we charged a position with the bayonet, even after a hot and prolonged bombardment, we found the Turks still there, and the wooden barracks that had to be literally pried apart, while all the time we were exposed to constant fire from below. No wonder the corpses were piled about.

In his eight months on the peninsula Moore-Jones got only one wound which he esteems worth mentioning. This was in the right hand and put an end to his sketching for a while. General ill health, the effects of prolonged privation, underfeeding and strain on a man no longer in the prime of life resulted in his being invalided home in December last. He finally wound up at a military hospital.

France, after experimenting went back in 1915 to her old standard, and by judging by the results of the war soldiers hesitate to say that the German scheme has failed. Germany's class of 1915 went into barracks on July 1 last year, and three months later the entire class of 1916 was ordered out. These two classes first appeared at Verdun this year, scores of thousands of them being used to fill the gaps in the crown prince's storming columns. The class of 1917 was called out in December, and is now actively expected by the allied staffs, though on June 1 none of its members had been reported on the western front.

Dual Monarchy's Losses Heavy.
Austria-Hungary has seventy-two divisions in the field, or had before the Russian attack caused some of them to disappear, and there are not up to strength it is difficult to say. The Dual Monarchy's total man power, my informants believe less than 8,000,000 bayonets and 1,400,000 men in the auxiliary services are left, out of something like 4,000,000 men who have taken the field during the war. Not only are the boys of the 1918 class already in training, but Austria has called out men up to fifty, a step Germany cannot take, it is thought in France and Britain, because of the greater demands of war industry in the German empire.

For the sake of completing our survey I set down the current guess that Turkey has 400,000 effectives and Bulgaria 250,000, but there are really no trustworthy data concerning these countries. The intelligence departments know of fifty-two Turkish and twelve Bulgarian divisions, but some of the former exist only on paper, and the latter may not be up to strength. Italy has less than 750,000 men actually fighting, having lost only a few divisions excepting the active and reserve armies, composed of all men of military age who have passed through the regular machine. The strength of the reorganized Serbian army at Saloniki is a closely guarded secret.

WAR CUTS SUEZ EARNINGS.

Canal Receipts for 1915 \$5,800,000 Less Than for 1914.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Paris, July 1.—The annual report of the Suez Canal Company gives some interesting details on the effect of the war on the company's business in 1915. The total receipts amounted to over \$5,800,000, being a decrease, as compared with 1914, of over \$3,300,000. Total expenditure amounted to over \$4,400,000, a decrease of \$182,000.

The number of passages have been 3,708, representing 15,256,115 tons, a decrease of 1,054 passages and 4,145,340 tons, as compared with 1914, or 21.35 per cent as compared with 1913, the last normal year, a decrease of 1,377 passages and 4,767 tons, or 23.80 per cent. German, Austrian and Turkish flags in 1915 represented 1,047 passages and 4,231,765 tons, or 21.16 per cent, so that their disappearance represents almost exactly the decrease for 1915. But the purely commercial traffic must be separated from that created by the war. State ships and ships freighted by States, for which the governments pay the dues, only formed 104 passages, or 300,145 tons, in 1915, while in 1914 they represented 743 passages and 8,573,897 tons.

The number of passengers has decreased by 72,000, as compared with 1913, although 119,812 military passengers have been carried. Civilian passengers have diminished by half, the suppression of the Mecca pilgrimage having a great effect.

New Transvaal Diamond Mine.
Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
London, July 1.—A Johannesburg dispatch says that a diamond mine, has been discovered eighteen miles from Pretoria, near the Premier, which produced the Cullinan stone. The roads leading to it are crowded with wagon loads of people seeking to peg out claims.

One of Brazil's most important railroads is being equipped with oilburning locomotives and expects eventually to dispense with coal.

MUD HOUSES FOR ENGLISH.

Experiments Now Being Carried on by London College.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
London, July 1.—The possibility of using mud as a building material and so solving the urgent problem of providing cheap country cottages in the rural districts and as housing accommodation in the areas and towns where there has been a sudden influx of war workers, is being made the subject of an interesting experiment by the new Household and Social Science Department of King's College for Women's University of London.

Six mysterious looking walls have just been erected in the grounds at Camber Hill, each wall being composed of a different mixture of mud, with a view to testing which proves most suitable to the English climate.

In each case the earth has been subjected to a different process of preparation. In one case waterglass has been added, in another soft soap and to the earth and soft soap in another case lime has been added. A "grouting" of cement has been poured over the mud wall in yet another case and there is one wall made of earth alone.

MAY FORCE CHLOROPHORM USE.
French Likely to Make It Compulsory in Army Surgery.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Paris, July 1.—The French Academy of Medicine is considering the advisability of recommending the government to make the use of chloroform compulsory in the army, not only in serious operations, but also in all cases where the treatment is painful.

At present French soldiers are obliged to submit to vaccination against smallpox and typhoid fever, but they cannot be compelled to accept chloroform against pain.

A committee has been formed to study the question as well as that of rendering compulsory the injection of serums in all cases where the latter are declared to be necessary by the doctor.

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